

share his story with my colleagues, and pay tribute to this remarkable man. Accordingly, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the distinguished Mr. Patrick Michael McGrady, Jr., and all of his remarkable contributions.

UNDOCUMENTED ALIEN EMERGENCY MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AMENDMENTS OF 2004

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, today the House considered H.R. 3722, the Undocumented Alien Emergency Medical Assistance Amendments. As you know, I voted against this bill.

Frankly, at a time when tuberculosis is on the rise in America, when STDs and AIDS continue to plague our population, and when biological health threats are no longer strictly the realm of science fiction. I am embarrassed that we had to debate legislation to erect barriers to health care rather than debating ways to encourage early intervention whenever someone falls ill.

Communicable diseases still do exist, even in a techno-world like ours. And they are very real threats to public health and safety. Just one "Typhoid Mary" can cause health emergencies of epidemic proportions.

Intrusive identification programs like the one proposed in H.R. 3722 create a near police-state environment in the emergency room. Suddenly the fear of not having one's proper documentation becomes more important than the prospect of getting treatment. Not getting treatment leads to risks for all of us and believe me, disease does not respect green cards. This bill is mean-spirited in its targeting of hard-working, albeit undocumented persons, but it is reckless in its exposing the greater community to potential health threats.

The better answer to this problem is to enforce the current immigration laws, which do not allow for the hiring of undocumented workers, to provide the necessary resources to protect the border from illegal crossings, and above all, to work with our international neighbors to build a world economy that encourages citizens to remain in their homeland and build their lives there.

IN HONOR OF MS. DEBRA BROWN STEINBERG

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Debra Brown Steinberg on the occasion of her 50th birthday. Ms. Steinberg, a Lead Attorney for 9/11 families and victims, gave of herself for 2½ years to help those in need. She worked tirelessly to ensure that 9/11 victims and their families received good legal advice and representation, and provided compassion and human understanding.

Ms. Steinberg is a partner at the New York offices of Cadwalader, Wickersham and Taft located near the site of the World Trade Center. After the attacks, while many New Yorkers

became extensions of their television sets and wrote checks to charities, Ms. Steinberg quickly understood how she could best help those whose lives were devastated by this horrific attack. It was clear to her that there would be a need for pro bono legal assistance, especially for the survivors and families of low-income workers whose problems would include immigration, housing, finance, language, education and job training.

The challenges to these families, many of whom were neither citizens nor legal aliens, were overwhelming. Ms. Steinberg responded by organizing and training lawyers and law students, working with nonprofit organizations and unions to learn the challenges and suggest solutions, meeting with elected officials and government agencies to explore ways to overcome bureaucratic obstacles. Moreover, she shared her knowledge and motivated others to volunteer their time and expertise.

Ms. Steinberg has earned the respect, admiration and affection of colleagues, friends and those she shepherded through these most difficult times. Her efforts have inspired those around her and enabled the partners and families of those killed on September 11 to begin to plan for their futures.

All of us in New York, as well as all Americans, have a special place in our hearts for people whose selfless acts make this a better world. Debra Steinberg is one of those very special people and I am proud to know her.

For her commitment to her community, her State, and this Country, it is my privilege to wish Ms. Steinberg a very happy 50th birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on May 17, 2004, I missed rollcall vote No. 177. Rollcall vote No. 177 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 420, a resolution applauding the men and women who keep America moving and recognizing National Transportation Week.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 177.

GENOCIDE IN DARFUR, WESTERN SUDAN

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise because as we speak genocide is occurring in Darfur. The international community, particularly the United States, has yet to learn from the Rwandan tragedy; ironically, we commemorate its 10th anniversary this year.

Like Rwanda, the warning signs in Darfur were obvious but we did nothing—and now the international community is watching, once again, with indifference as millions of Black Africans are wiped out of western Sudan. The Bush administration has raised concerns, and the U.N. has denounced the "ethnic cleans-

ing" executed by the Sudanese government's militias, but this is beyond ethnic cleansing, this is systematic and calculated genocide.

Prevent Genocide International defines genocide as the "intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, and the five punishable forms of the crime of genocide include: genocide; conspiracy; incitement; attempt; and complicity. All of the five punishable forms of genocide are occurring in Darfur. Hundreds of thousands are fleeing Darfur; fearing that they will become yet another statistic in Khartoum's plan to rape, torture and ultimately wipe out all Blacks in the southwestern region of Sudan.

The number of refugees and internally displaced persons on the Chadian border continues to rise. In just the last 12 months, the National Islamic Front government of Sudan and its allied militia, the Janjaweed, displaced more than 1 million people, forced over 110,000 people into Chad, and killed more than 10,000 innocent civilians.

As in other conflicts designed deliberately to humiliate and eliminate people because of their identity, we have seen women and girls targeted for rape in Darfur. Government troops and their allied militia have raped, tortured, maimed and burned entire villages in a deliberate and systematic manner to cleanse the area of all Blacks, regardless of religion. USAID estimates that at least 3.5 million people will die if no one in the international community stops this massacre and delivers emergency humanitarian assistance before the rainy season begins in June.

As was the case in 1994 in Rwanda when our government and the international community refused to use the word genocide—we are once again witness to the same duplicity and lies about the tragedy in Darfur. The people who are speaking out loudest regarding the tragedies in Darfur are the humanitarian organizations, who to this day, are still limited by the Khartoum government in their quest to save lives. Humanitarian NGOs have complained of Khartoum's delaying tactics—stalling on visa applications, and denying travel and work permits, preventing NGOs from getting to camps for the internally displaced.

Mr. Speaker, how can we allow this travesty to continue and not be outraged? The government of Sudan is not our partner in peace. We must stop pushing a false "Sudan peace process" and really deal with this genocide.

I call on the Bush administration to call this attack on the people of Darfur what it is: genocide. I ask that the United Nations meet and commission an emergency humanitarian and peacekeeping mission for the people of Darfur. And lastly, I call on our global community—particularly the leaders of the African Union—use their regional leadership to save the lives of millions in Darfur. Without our express concern and emergency assistance the killing will continue.

In the words of Gandhi, "Destruction is not the law of humans. . . . Every murder or other injury, no matter for what cause, committed or inflicted on another is a crime against humanity." We must stop the genocide in Darfur now because every death, every rape, every displaced person reflects our disregard for their justice and their right to life.